

Amendments to the Claims:

1. **(Original)** A water activating method comprising:

providing at least one pair of permanent magnets with an N pole and an S pole thereof being opposed to each other across a water flow tube and arranging concave yokes in a pair that are formed by molding magnetic metal or magnetic ceramic so that the concave yokes are opposed to each other with a predetermined gap therebetween and that each of the concave yokes magnetically makes a contact with a surface of one of the permanent magnets opposite to a surface thereof that is opposed to another one of the permanent magnets;

laminating a non-magnetic conductive metal layer inside the concave yokes including the gap therebetween and excluding contact areas that make a contact with the permanent magnets, the non-magnetic conductive metal layer being formed by single plating made of either one of metals of copper, silver, and gold or composite plating made of the metals, or a composite metal plate formed by laminating films made of the metals, thereby improving an electric potential inside the pair of the concave yokes; and

causing, with water passing through the water flow tube, an electromotive current occurring in a direction perpendicular to a direction of a flow of water and a direction of magnetic lines of force occurring between the permanent magnets to repulsively act by an electric potential inside the yokes in a longitudinal direction of the water flow tube,

thereby performing a process by causing electrons and a magnetic force occurring between the permanent magnets to act upon the flow of water in the water flow tube.

2. **(Original)** A water activating apparatus comprising:

at least one pair of concave yokes formed by molding magnetic metal or magnetic ceramic;

an N pole formed by a permanent magnet provided so as to magnetically make a contact with an inner surface of one of the concave yokes; and

an S pole formed by a permanent magnet provided so as to magnetically make a contact with an inner surface of another one of the concave yokes, wherein

the concave yokes are arranged so as to have a predetermined gap with the N pole and the S pole being opposed to each other,

a non-magnetic conductive metal layer is laminated inside the concave yokes including the gap therebetween and excluding contact areas that make a contact with the N pole and the S pole, the non-magnetic conductive metal layer being formed by single plating made of either one of metals of copper, silver, and gold or composite plating made of the metals, or a composite metal plate formed by laminating films made of the metals, and

a non-magnetic water flow tube is provided between the N pole and the S pole that are opposed to each other to allow a flow of water to pass therethrough in a direction perpendicular to a direction of magnetic lines of force from the N pole to the S pole, thereby activating the flow of water.

3. **(Original)** The water activating apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a box for accommodating the concave yokes including a part of the water flow tube, wherein an outer surface of the box is covered with either one of chrome plating and a chrome metal plate made of strong diamagnetic metal.

4. **(Currently amended)** The water activating apparatus according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the non-magnetic conductive metal layer is formed by either one of composite plating and a composite metal plate formed by metals of different electric potentials, with a high-potential metal being positioned on a side of the water flow tube.

5. **(Currently amended)** The water activating apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 2 through 4~~ claim 2, wherein the flow of water passing through the water flow tube is kept from contact with the concave yokes and the non-magnetic conductive metal layer.

6. **(New)** The water activating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the non-magnetic conductive metal layer is formed by either one of composite plating and a composite metal plate formed by metals of different electric potentials, with a high-potential metal being positioned on a side of the water flow tube.

7. **(New)** The water activating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the flow of water passing through the water flow tube is kept from contact with the concave yokes and the non-magnetic conductive metal layer.

8. **(New)** The water activating apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the flow of water passing through the water flow tube is kept from contact with the concave yokes and the non-magnetic conductive metal layer.